(b) whether there is any specific demand by them, and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have decided to meet their demands;

(d) if so, the number of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers expected to be benefited in the country;

(e) whether any financial assistance has been accorded therefor; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF WOMEN AND CHILD DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY): (a) A Review Committee was appointed by the Government to examine the current levels of Honorarium to Anganwadi Workers/Helpers and related issues.

(b) Major demands of Anganwadi Workers and Helpers as per representations received from time to time are as under:—

* Accord status of Grade 'C" & 'D' employees of Government with consequential benefits.
* Payment of salary at par with the Government employees.
* Linkage of remuneration with Consumer Price Index.
* A lump sum ex-gratia benefit on retirement of Rs. 1,00,000/- to AWWs and Rs. 50,000/- to AWHs.
* Extension of social security benefits like provident funds, pension etc. to all AWWs/AWHs.
* Enhancement of honorarium to Rs. 3,000/- for AWWs and Rs. 2,000/- to AWHs.

(c) to (f) The Review Committee has recently submitted its Report and the same is under consideration of the Government.

Illegal mining in Rajasthan

†*290. SHRI BANWARI LAL KANCHHAL: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether saint and the public are expressing their severe anger in protest against illegal mining taking place in the holy mountains situated

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

at Brij Chaurasi Kosh in Deeng and Kama Tehsil of District Bharatpur, Rajasthan;

(b) whether the Supreme Court, Rajasthan High court and the Department of Archaeology have declared the mining illegal;

(c) whether Government will conduct an enquiry regarding the ongoing illegal mining despite the ban thereon and the matter being in the knowledge of the Minister of Mines of Rajasthan Government;

(d) whether the illegal mining will be stopped keeping in view religious and environmental issues; and

(e) if so, by when and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF MINES (SHRI SIS RAM OLA): (a) to (e) As per information furnished by State Government of Rajasthan, saints are opposing mining in the Braj area. The State Government has been negotiating with saints through the Collector, Bharatpurto resolve the issue. State Government has informed that Supreme Court and Rajasthan High Court have not declared this mining activity as illegal. On the the apprehension of Archaeological Survey of India regarding effects of pollution on protected monument of Deeg and Kama Tehsil, State Government has informed that no mining/biasting is being carried out in the vicinity of these monuments and also no permission is being granted. State Government has also informed that mining activity has been stopped in 500 metres area on either side of the Braj Chaurasi Kos parikrama marg since 27.1.2005, mining operation has been stopped in 17 mining leases and at present no mining operation is being undertaken in 500 metre area on either side of the parikrama marg. State Government has been regularly monitoring illegal mining activities. Committees at Block and District level have been constituted. During the current year, 15 First Information Reports (FIR), 59 complaints have been lodged and 146 cases have been detected. Beside this, 115 vehicles have also been impounded. Rs. 7,32,870 towards penalty was also realized.

Right to Education Bill

*291. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry's most ambitious project the Right to Education Bill has run into serious trouble as the State Governments do not feel